

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5124

As of January 15, 2009

Title: An act relating to raffle ticket prices.

Brief Description: Increasing raffle ticket prices.

Sponsors: Senators Pridemore and Kohl-Welles.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection: 1/19/09.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Staff: Ingrid Mungia (786-7423)

Background: Washington's Gambling Act authorizes charitable and nonprofit organizations to conduct raffles to raise funds for the organizations' stated purposes. The organization must be organized for one of the purposes specified in statute, which include agricultural, charitable, educational, political, fraternal, or athletic purposes, and meet other requirements.

A raffle may be conducted as a licensed or unlicensed raffle. A license is required if (1) the gross revenue from all gambling fundraising conducted by the organization is more than \$5,000 per year; (2) tickets are sold by someone other than a member of the organization; (3) tickets are sold at a discount; (4) firearms are awarded as prizes; and (5) in certain other cases. By rule, if the total value of raffle prizes offered in a year exceeds \$80,000 or the retail value of a prize is \$40,000 or more, Gambling Commission approval is required in addition to a license.

The maximum price of a raffle ticket is \$25.

Summary of Bill: The maximum price of a raffle ticket is raised from \$25 to \$100. The Gambling Commission may raise the maximum amount above \$100 by rule.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

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Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.